



RECEIVED

JAN 15 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Neeper, M.P. *et al.*  
Serial No.: 09/642,405 - Case No.: 20413Y  
Filed: August 21, 2000  
For: SYNTHETIC HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS  
GENES

Art Unit:  
1632

Examiner:  
Li, Q.J.

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE COMMUNICATION**

Sir:

This letter is in response to the Office Communication mailed December 12, 2002, in the above-identified application, having a ONE (1) month period for response set to expire on January 12, 2003. Applicants respectfully request the following amendments be entered and the claims considered in light thereof. Please credit any overpayment or charge any fee deficiency to Deposit Account No. 13-2755

**REMARKS**

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks. The Office Communication states that Applicants previous response, filed October 15, 2002, allegedly does not comply with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.121(c) because it fails to provide a marked up version of the amended claims. Applicants respectfully take the position that a marked up version of the amended claims was submitted with the previous response. However, to facilitate prosecution on the merits, a "Version Showing Markings of Pending Claims" is attached hereto which shows the specific amendments to individual claims, consistent with 37 CFR 1.121(c).

It is believed that the claims are in a condition for allowance and a favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.